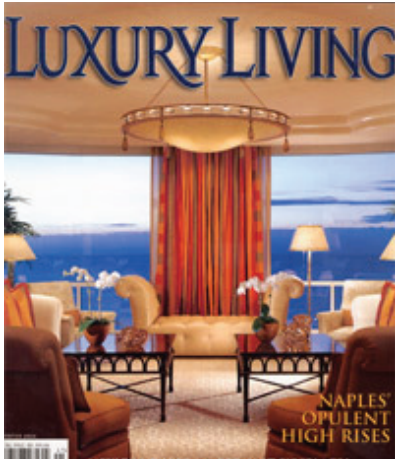




## Luxury Living - Winter 2003



### INTOXICATING INVITATIONS

By Becki Bryant

Perhaps no other element in the home provides more warmth and ambiance than a roaring fire. It is not only the heat of the flame, but its intoxicating movement that draws us in and makes us want to stay awhile.

Because of their allure, fireplaces can now be found in any area of the home -- from bedrooms and bathrooms to kitchens and outdoor living areas. In fact, a recent survey by the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association found that over 21 percent of North American homes have a fireplace somewhere other than a living room or family room.

This issue of Luxury living highlights a handful of unique fireplace environments. Some were chosen because of their locations; others for their craftsmanship. All are unique and entice onlookers to linger a little longer.

### TWICE AS INVITING

Builder Paul Courchene knows how to make his guests feel welcome. Inside his living room, there is a fireplace, and just beyond the French doors under the covered loggia, there is another. Walking from one to the other, guests feel as if they're being taken to a tropical resort. Designed by Marc-Michaels Interior Design, the custom limestone-finished outdoor fireplace features corbels with acanthus leaf details. A nearby pool and lush landscaping add to the vacation-like ambiance.